

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an image, comprising the steps of:
providing a reversible image display medium comprising;
two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween;
one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and

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a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities; and

displaying an image by driving the frictionally charged developing particles having different chargeable polarities in an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed, wherein

in the image display step, strength of the electric field to be applied to the developer is 0.3 V/ μ m to 3.0 V/ μ m.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one kind of the developing particles among the dry developing particles are magnetic particles, and a magnetic stirring force is applied to the developer by a magnetic field in relation to driving the developing particles in the electrostatic field.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an image, comprising the steps of:

providing a reversible image display medium comprising;

two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween;

one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and

a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities;

displaying an image by applying from outside an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed and by applying from outside an oscillating force to the frictionally charged dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities to drive the developing particles for image display; and

substantially stopping application of the oscillating force during the application of the electrostatic field after image display.

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4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein at least one kind out of the two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities which form the dry developer are magnetic particles; and wherein

the application of oscillating force to the developing particles in the image display step is carried out by application of an oscillating magnetic field; and

the substantial stop of application of oscillating force in the step of substantial stop of application of oscillating force is done by substantial stop of the application of oscillating magnetic field during the application of electrostatic field after image display.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the substantial stop of application of oscillating force is conducted after image display and during the application of electrostatic field at $0.5 \text{ V}/\mu\text{m}$ or more to the developer from outside.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein a surface of the image display medium on image observation side is charged to carry a potential holding the displayed image after completion of application of the electrostatic field.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein at least one kind out of at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities which form the developer are magnetic particles; and wherein

when the surface of the image display medium on the image observation side is charged to carry the potential holding the displayed image, the charged polarity of the charged potential corresponds to the charged polarity of the magnetic developing particles.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an image, comprising the steps of:
providing a reversible image display medium comprising;
two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween;

one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and

a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities;

displaying an image by applying from outside an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed to the frictionally charged developing particles having different chargeable polarities to drive the developing particles for image display; and

charging a surface of the image display medium on image observation side to carry a potential holding the displayed image after completion of application of the electrostatic field.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the potential holding the displayed image is 100 V or less in terms of absolute value.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the potential holding the displayed image is 100 V or less in terms of absolute value.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an image, comprising the steps of:
providing a reversible image display medium comprising;
two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween;
one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and

a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities;

initializing the reversible image display medium by stirring the developer in the image display medium before image display on the display medium; and

displaying an image by driving the frictionally charged dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities within the above-initialized reversible image display medium in an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the initialization is conducted by application of an alternating electric field to the developer in the medium.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein strength of the alternating electric field to be applied to the developer is $0.5 \text{ V}/\mu\text{m}$ or more.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein frequency of the alternating electric field to be applied to the developer is 5 kHz or less.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the application of alternating electric field to the developer in the medium is performed to satisfy a condition: (frequency[Hz] of alternating electric field x time[second(s)] for application of alternating electric field)=20 or more.

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus which displays an image using a reversible image display medium comprising: two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween; one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities,

the apparatus comprising:

a device for initializing the reversible image display medium by stirring the developer in the image display medium before image display on the medium; and

an image forming portion for displaying an image by driving the frictionally charged developing particles having different chargeable polarities within the initialized medium in an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed.

17. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the initializing device is one in which the developer is stirred by application of an alternating electric field to the developer in the reversible image display medium.

18. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the initializing device applies the alternating electric field having an electric field strength of 0.5 V/ μ m or more to the developer.

19. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the initializing device applies the alternating electric field having a frequency of 5 kHz or less to the developer.

20. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the initializing device applies the alternating electric field to the developer to satisfy a condition: (frequency[Hz] of alternating electric field) X (time[second(s)] for application of alternating electric field) = 20 or more.

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21. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an image, comprising the steps of:
providing a reversible image display medium comprising;
two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween;
one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and

a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities, at least one kind out of at least two kinds of developing particles being magnetic particles; and

displaying an image by applying an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed to the frictionally charged developing particles having different chargeable polarities in the medium to drive the developing particles, and

affecting a magnetic field on the developer in the reversible image display medium from outside before and/or in the image display step to apply a stirring force to the developing particles.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein at least one magnetic field-generating member is opposed to the reversible image display medium, and the magnetic field-generating member and the medium are relatively moved to oscillate the magnetic field strength to be applied to the developer, whereby the magnetic stirring force is applied.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein the magnetic field-generating member is opposed to at least one side of the reversible image display medium.

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24. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein a surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction, and the magnetic field-generating member to be used is one in which magnetic poles are arranged in the predetermined direction.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein a surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction and a direction across the predetermined direction, and the magnetic field-generating member to be used is one in which magnetic poles are arranged in the direction across said predetermined direction.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein a surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction and wherein the magnetic field-generating member to be used is one in which magnetic poles are arranged in a direction at a specific angle to said predetermined direction.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein a surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction and the magnetic field-generating member to be used is one in which at least two rows of magnetic poles are arranged in a direction across the predetermined direction such that in two adjacent rows of the magnetic poles, positions of N and S magnetic poles are displaced from each other in the direction of arrangement of the magnetic poles.

28. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein the magnetic field-generating members are opposed to both sides of the reversible image display medium, and the magnetic field-generating members are different from each other in the arrangement of magnetic poles.

29. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus which displays an image using a reversible image display medium comprising: two substrates opposed to each other with a gap therebetween; one or more developer accommodating cells formed between the two substrates, each having a periphery surrounded by a partition wall; and a dry developer contained in each of the ~~cell(s)~~ cells, the dry developer containing at least two kinds of frictionally chargeable dry

developing particles having different chargeable polarities and different optical reflection densities, at least one kind out of two kinds of developing particles being magnetic particles,

the image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming portion for displaying the image by driving the frictionally charged dry developing particles having different chargeable polarities within the reversible image display medium in an electrostatic field corresponding to the image to be displayed; and

at least one device for applying a magnetic stirring force by affecting a magnetic field on the developer in the reversible image display medium from outside to apply the stirring force to the developer before and/or in image display.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the device for applying the magnetic stirring force has at least one magnetic field-generating member which is opposed to the reversible image display medium, and magnetic field strength to be applied to the developer is oscillated by relative movement between a surface of the magnetic field-generating member and the medium.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the device for applying the magnetic stirring force has the magnetic field-generating member which is opposed to at least one side of the reversible image display medium.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member in at least one device for applying the magnetic stirring force and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one

predetermined direction, and the magnetic field-generating member has magnetic poles arranged in said predetermined direction.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member in at least one device for applying the magnetic stirring force and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction, and a direction across the predetermined direction and wherein the magnetic field-generating member has magnetic poles arranged in the direction across said predetermined direction.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member in at least one device for applying the magnetic stirring force and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction, and the magnetic field-generating member has magnetic poles arranged in a direction at a specific angle to said predetermined direction.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the surface of at least one magnetic field-generating member in at least one device for applying the magnetic stirring force and the reversible image display medium are relatively moved in one predetermined direction, and the magnetic field-generating member has at least two rows of magnetic poles arranged in a direction across the predetermined direction such that in two adjacent rows of the magnetic poles, positions of N and S magnetic poles are displaced from each other in the direction of arrangement of the magnetic poles.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim 30, wherein at least one device for applying the magnetic stirring force has magnetic field-generating members which are opposed to both sides of the reversible image display medium and which are different from each other in the arrangement of magnetic poles.
